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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

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Sixty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 29 October 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to attach herewith identical letters dated 29 October 2012 addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (see annex).

The letters contain information about the activities of the armed terrorist groups in Syria and the States that provide them with support. These terrorist groups have increased their use of booby-trapped cars in their attacks, the most recent of which involved the explosion of a car bomb in the city of Jaramana, south of Damascus, on the morning of Monday, 29 October, which killed 11 individuals and injured more than 20.

It would be highly appreciated if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item number 105, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 29 October 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

This morning, Monday, 29 October 2012, the explosion of a booby-trapped vehicle shook a residential quarter of the Jaramana suburb in the south of Damascus. Eleven civilians were killed and more than 20 were injured, and buildings and shops in the area sustained severe damage. Jaramana is a suburb in which various denominations of Muslim and Christian Syrians live together.

That terrorist explosion was one of several destructive bombings that took place in Syria during Eid al-Adha, a period during which the Syrian Government had announced that it would halt military operations. The failure of the Security Council to condemn the first explosion, which took place in the Daff al-Shawk area, encouraged the terrorists to continue their crimes against the Syrian people.

Certain European and Western States members of the Security Council and the United States of America have on several occasions thwarted the release of Council statements condemning the bloody terrorism that has taken the lives of scores of children, women and older persons in Syria. The most recent occasion on which the Security Council was prevented from approving a statement against terrorism in Syria was when the United Kingdom, a permanent member of the Security Council, blocked a statement that condemned a bombing perpetrated by terrorists in Daff al-Shawk, a neighbourhood of the Syrian capital Damascus, in which many were killed and injured and scores of buildings were destroyed. Such obstruction on the part of States which claim to fight international terrorism can only be construed as effectively fostering terrorism and its perpetrators. Every time the terrorist groups commit their crimes in Syria, States including the United States of America, France, Germany and the United Kingdom take it in turns to obstruct such steps. Their pretexts and infamous claims clearly point to an agenda that targets the Syrian people and their achievements and culture. Such abominable double standards prove that those States are not capable of shouldering their responsibilities in the Security Council and, indeed, that they frequently scorn the Council in order to serve their own narrow interests.

In two televised messages released on 25 October 2012, Ayman al-Zawahiri, the leader of Al-Qaida, called on those of his followers who are active in Syria to escalate their criminal butchery. He further instructed his adherents in the Islamic world to head for Syria in order to undertake jihad. The terrorist acts in Daff al-Shawk and against Syrian churches and mosques and religious figures were carried out pursuant to those instructions. Where is the Security Council when it comes to these crimes? Why are their perpetrators being protected by certain Council members?

On the instructions that they have received from their leaders who are living in Riyadh, Doha, Ankara, Istanbul, Paris and other capitals, the terrorist organizations murdered Father Fadi Haddad, the pastor of the Greek Orthodox church of Mar Elias in Qatana, and detonated a booby-trapped car in front of the Syriac church in Dayr al-Zawr. Those incidents were preceded by the savage terrorist attack on the

Umayyad mosque in Aleppo, which caused extensive material damage, and the attacks carried out by the terrorist groups on the first day of Eid al-Adha on a water pumping station in Aleppo, which disabled five pumps and cut the supply of drinking water to all the inhabitants of the western part of the city. All those and other crimes took place at a time when Syrian Arab law enforcement forces had made a specific commitment to halt operations and made no response to many of the attacks that were committed by terrorist groups in various parts of Syria. We informed the Security Council and the United Nations Secretary-General on a daily basis of the armed terrorist groups' violations of the Eid al-Adha ceasefires.

On 23 October 2012, as part of the genuine efforts to restore security and peace throughout Syria, the President of the Syrian Arab Republic, His Excellency Bashar Al-Assad, declared the most comprehensive general amnesty in the history of Syria. It benefited thousands of Syrians who had been involved in the recent events and were able, after their release, to celebrate Eid al-Adha with their families and friends.

Syria implores Security Council member States and, in particular, those which fight terrorism without employing double standards, and all other States members of the United Nations, to condemn the terrorism through which the perpetrators and their protectors and financers, who arm and shelter them, are seeking to destroy and fragment Syria, abolish the unity of its people and territory and bring an end to its civilized and humane role.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative